

April 1984

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# **PERMANENT COIN CLUB SHOW DATES**

**SHOW CHAIRMAN: EDWARD VOSS**

**Member Clubs: Please check this listing before scheduling  
your next show! Send listings to Show Chairman EARLY!**

**February — 2nd Sunday: Rantoul Coin Club, Rantoul**

**February — 4th Sunday: Gibson City Coin Club, Gibson City**

**March — 1st Sunday: Wat-Cha-Kee Coin Club, Watseka**

**March — 2nd weekend: Dupo Coin Club, Fairview Heights**

**March — 3rd Sunday: Freeport Coin Club, Freeport**

**March — 3rd Sunday: Kankakee Coin Club, Kankakee**

**April — Last weekend (two days): Mattoon Coin Club, Mattoon**

**April — Last Saturday: Corn Belt Coin Club, Bloomington**

**September — Last Sunday: Fairfield**

**October — 1st Saturday: Corn Belt Coin Club, Bloomington**

**October — 2nd Sunday: Viking Club of Moline,  
1450 First Street, Moline, Illinois 61265**

**October — 3rd Sunday: Kankakee Coin Club, Kankakee**

**October — 3rd Sunday: McHenry County Coin Club, Crystal Lake**

**October — 4th Sunday: Hoopeston Coin Club, Hoopeston**

**November — 1st Sunday: Champaign-Urbana Coin Club, Urbana**

**November — 1st Sunday: Dixon Coin Club, Dixon**

**November — 1st Sunday: Centralia Coin Club, Centralia**

**November — 2nd Sunday: Aurora Coin Club, Aurora**

**EDITORIAL**  
**POT POURRI**  
Mark Wieclaw

This issue I thought I would just air some views and hope to get your thoughts in return.

Proof coins — are they really what they are cracked up to be? Since these coins are not made for circulation, should they be considered coins or medals? They should not receive any wear so they can't be compared to a gem BU business strike coin.

Sales Tax — it's a shame when a collector must choose to do business with a dealer from out of state rather than a local dealer because of the extra cost of state, county, or city sales tax. The corporation of Bowers & Merena left Los Angeles and moved to New Hampshire where there is no sales tax. Also Numisco of Chicago recently opened a branch office in New Hampshire because they felt the company was losing \$8 to \$10 million worth of business each year in sales from Illinois collectors and investors. Unless some laws are changed, New Hampshire may become the numismatic capital of the country.

Postage & Handling (P&H) — when you order coins through the mail and you have to pay P&H, do you ever check the envelope when your coins arrive to see how much postage was needed? The rest of your charge presumably is for handling.

I was recently charged \$3.60 P&H for a coin that was successfully bid \$205 and a 10% buyer's fee. The postage was \$1.40, meaning I paid someone \$2.20 to place my coin in an envelope and mail it to me. If we are paying people to do this, what is the buyer's fee and seller's commission for? Perhaps in the future the price of a coin should have sales tax, P&H, buyer's fee, and any other charges someone might come up with included at one price.

We have added a mailing address for the "Digest" to Page One under the editors' names. Please send all future correspondence to this address.

## CLUB NEWS

ILLNA was well represented at the Michigan State Numismatic Society Fall Convention in November. The Chicago Coin Club had three award winners: Carl Wolf (1st, Foreign), Bill Grundy (1st, Jr., 11-14 years), and Rob Chramosta (1st, Jr., 15-17 years and Junior Best of Show). The Will County Coin Club also had three award winners: Bob Ziesmer (1st, Gold Coins), Ethel Ziesmer (3rd, Tokens, Medals, etc.), and Mark Wieclaw (3rd, Foreign).



ILLNA Award Winners L. to R. (Carl Wolf, Mark Wieclaw, Ethel Ziesmer, Bob Ziesmer, Bill Grundy, and Rob Chramosta). Photo courtesy of Shirley Wilamowski.

The Chicago Coin Club provides a social and educational forum for collectors of coins, tokens, medals and paper money, both United States and Foreign. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p.m., on the 15th floor at the 208 South LaSalle Street Building. Our featured speakers for the rest of the year are listed below.

### THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME!

APRIL — CHARLES RICARD: Why Collect Exonumia?

MAY — MEMBER BENEFIT AUCTION

JUNE — SAUL NEEDLEMAN: Cut Spanish Coinage

JULY — GEORGE LILL III: Cleaning and Preservation of Coins

AUGUST — JOHN WILSON: U.S. Paper Money

SEPTEMBER — WILLIAM BAKER: Historical Roman Coins

OCTOBER — WILLIAM NAWROCKI: World Pattern Coinage

NOVEMBER — GERARD ANASZEWICZ: United States Inaugural Medals

DECEMBER — ANNUAL BANQUET, ELECTIONS, and NUMISMATITIS

JANUARY (1985) — The Legends and Heroes of Mexican Coinage

Gerard Anaszewicz, Vice President & Program Director

### MATTOON COIN CLUB SHOW — April 28-29, 1984

The Mattoon Coin Club will have its 24th annual show on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 am til 9:00 pm & on Sunday, April 29 from 10:00 am til 5:00 pm

The show will be held in the Holiday Inn, E. Route 16, Mattoon, IL (one mile west of Interstate 57). Admission is free. There will be hourly door prizes.

A public auction will be held at 7:00 pm Saturday, featuring mostly U.S. and foreign coins. The Club promises some fine exhibits and a bourse of 30 coin and coin supply dealers.

### **WILL COUNTY "SILVER ANNIVERSARY"**

The Will County Coin Club of Joliet, Illinois, will hold its 25th Annual Show on Sunday the 15th of April. Show hours are 9 am to 5 pm at the Cantigny Post on Horseshoe Drive. A bourse of 28 dealers and exhibit area will occupy the main level. At 1 p.m., in the lower level, a counterfeit detection seminar will be conducted by James Beasley, Consultant to ANACS on counterfeit detection. The subject will deal with "key date" U.S. cents thru dollars. Following the seminar a public auction will be held by Stamps, Coins, Shells, Etc. of Joliet.

Admission to the show is free and everyone attending the show will receive an elongated cent commemorative. As in past years refreshments will be available throughout the day and hourly door prizes will be given away. The show will close with the annual raffle including a U.S. \$5 gold piece.

Exhibitors are being sought and awards appropriate for the "Silver" Anniversary will be given to the 1st and 2nd place winners in each of six categories.

The club meets the 1st Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm, at the Harwood Post off South Larkin Avenue in Joliet. Further information about the show or the club's regular meetings can be obtained by writing: Will County Coin Club, 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451.



Readers wishing to order commemorative cents at 25¢ each or silver dimes at \$1.25 each may do so by writing: Will County Coin Club, 175 W. Wood St., New Lenox, IL 60451. A self-addressed stamped envelope must accompany each order.

## NATIONAL COIN WEEK

This year National Coin Week will be held from April 15th to the 21st. Several clubs have planned programs such as shows, displays, lectures, etc.

The purpose of National Coin Week is to educate the general public to coin collecting. We can all do our part. One of the best ways is to get a young person started on a collection of his or her own. Do you have a few rolls of wheat cents that you can give to a niece or nephew? If not, just go to the bank and get a few rolls of cents. A nice set to put together is the Lincoln Memorial Set. Sit down with your grandson or granddaughter and explain how coinage is made or how to tell the circulated ones from the uncirculated ones. I am sure the time will be well spent. You may start a young person on the road to starting a nice collection.

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### NATIONAL COIN WEEK

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**NUMISMATICS**  
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**FOR FRIENDSHIP**

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**APRIL 15-21, 1984**

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# WILL COUNTY COIN CLUB

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SHOW  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1984**

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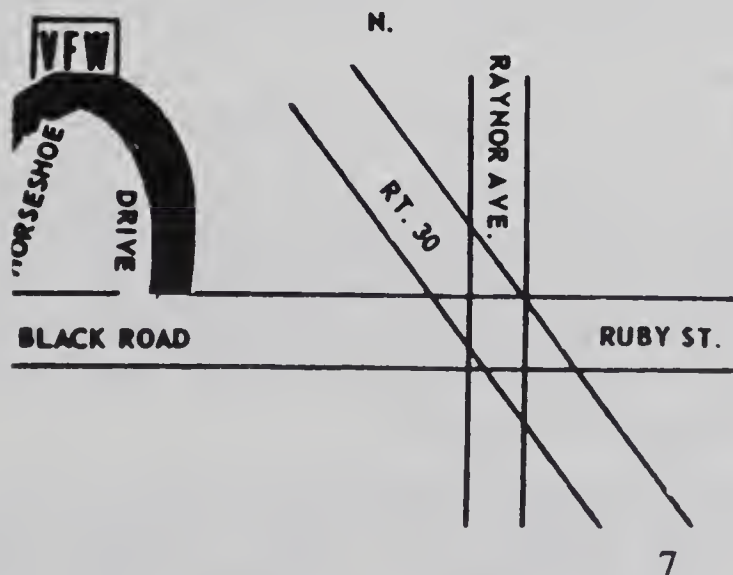
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# THE STORY BEHIND A MEDAL

by Samuel W. Johnson Jr. NLG

At any coin show we attend, there will be various United States and foreign war medals for sale. The majority of these medals are very inexpensive. The stories of why these medals were presented (and the men who received them) are forgotten. The medals are mute.

Thousands of scrapbooks revealing these facts have either been thrown away or destroyed in some manner. The man featured in this article received very little local publicity. Few people, even in his home town, know his story.

The author strongly believes that, even though this may be a controversial article to some people, this man's story should be told. Admittedly, this will be a most unusual story. (War medals are as numismatic as coins or paper money!)

The Vietnam War was very unpopular. Even today, many veterans of this war have not received the honor and respect due them. The man featured in this article, Sam Morrow, Jr., experienced the hell of jungle warfare and much more. First, to understand him better, you must be given a bit of information about his background.

Morrow was born in Sparta, Illinois, a small southwestern Illinois town located 48 miles southeast of St. Louis. Like millions of other families across our nation, the Morrow family was not considered part of the town's so-called "elite" population. Rightfully feeling that he was "as good as anyone else," Morrow grew up to become a quite arrogant young man. Even today, he displays scorn against many self-proclaimed elite people.

Although he did not graduate from high school, Morrow was highly intelligent. He enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 18 on May 31, 1967. Although the strict disciplinary drill instructors of Marine Corps boot camp thought that they had "broken this man," they hadn't. Contempt and scorn still seethed inside of Morrow.

However, he learned the lessons of boot camp well and was transformed into a United States Marine. He was an inconspicuous appearing Marine, about 5'10" tall and weighing 145 pounds. After boot camp, like many others, he volunteered to go to Vietnam. Although they didn't know it at this time, the Communist soldiers were to meet a most formidable and deadly opponent.

During his time in Vietnam, Morrow would perform his duties admirably. His main job was driving an armored vehicle/troop transporter. This vehicle was designed to transport 26 men. However, Morrow found out one day that it could carry more than twice that amount. His vehicle was literally packed with dead American soldiers. As ordered, he transported them many miles. (Can you imagine Morrow's thoughts during this journey?)

While in Vietnam, Morrow was promoted twice, attaining the rank of Lance Corporal. His record in Vietnam was spotless. He "never thought about whether it was a just war or not." He just followed orders, did what he thought was right, and served his country.

On October 14, 1968 Morrow would help save the lives of six Marines. He would later receive the "Navy and Marine Corps Medal" for heroism. His citation reads as follows:

Commander in Chief United States Pacific Fleet  
The President of the United States takes Pleasure in Presenting  
the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to  
Lance Corporal Samuel Adam Morrow Jr.  
United States Marine Corps  
for service as set forth in the following:

#### CITATION

"For heroism while serving with Company A, First Amphibian Tractor Battalion, Third Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam. On 14 October, 1968, six Marines were in danger of being swept out to sea after they abandoned their sinking amphibian tractor while attempting to cross the Cua Viet River in Quang Tri Province. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Lance Corporal Morrow unhesitatingly volunteered to ride on top of a tracked landing vehicle which launched into the turbulent surf to attempt the rescue. Undaunted by the heavy seas and high surf breaking over his vehicle, he resolutely held his position and assisted in retrieving three of the Marines closest to shore. Disregarding his own safety, he remained on top of the amphibian tractor as it proceeded through the turbulent water a second time to the remaining three Marines, who were clinging to a floating object 300 meters from shore. Reaching the imperiled men, he skillfully assisted in their recovery and expeditiously returned to shore, where the six survivors were then taken to an aid station. Lance Corporal Morrow's courage, bold initiative and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

For the President  
(Signed) John J. Hyland, Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet

Morrow also performed other duties in Vietnam. On patrols, he served many times as "the point man." Serving on the point is most dangerous, because this duty requires the soldier to be alone and in advance of the main forces. Should a point man encounter an enemy force, he would quickly be killed.

However, the main U.S. force would know that the enemy was near and be alerted. They would know because they would hear the shots or explosion that killed their point man! A point man must be a very alert and skilled soldier. The responsibility of this job is very high. If a point man did not do his job, the main force might come under heavy fire. Friends, Morrow was an excellent point man. He actually requested this job!

While on patrols, four times he sighted enemy soldiers. An expert rifleman (and also with a .45 pistol) Morrow won all four encounters. On several of these patrols, Morrow would be "cut-off" from the main force. He, and others, would have to "sit tight" for several days before attempting to re-join their outfit.



**Samuel A. Morrow Jr. receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for his rescue of six Marines during operations in Vietnam**

He stood many nights of “perimeter guard.” He, and many others, crouched in fox holes, protected their camp from an enemy night attack. During these nights, if a suspicious sound was heard, it was “standard procedure” to toss a hand grenade toward the sound. Morrow did this dozens of times, as did his fellow Marines. Several times, Morrow came under intense rifle and machine gun fire while guarding the perimeter.

Morrow, and many others, “cut the fuses down” on their grenades so they would explode about two seconds after “pulling the pin.” He simply states that they didn’t want the enemy soldiers to pick up any of their grenades and throw them back. The Marines wanted a “fast action” grenade. (These must have been agonizing and terrifying nights!)

Perhaps the most bone chilling experiences Morrow encountered were the many enemy mortar bombardments. During one of these bombardments, Morrow was seriously wounded. Records indicate that he spent more than a month in the hospital recovering from shrapnel wounds.

(Morrow’s experiences in Vietnam would physiologically affect anyone. There are several experiences he doesn’t even wish to discuss. If asked about these, he will just lower his head and say nothing. During the several interviews for this article, Morrow was visibly upset. He was very nervous. Without a doubt, his brain was flashing vivid pictures of unpleasant memories.)

When Morrow’s tour of duty in Vietnam was finished, he returned to the United States and was stationed at Camp Lejeune, a Marine Corps base in the Carolinas. (Remember, friends, Morrow’s record in Vietnam was spotless!)

When he returned to native soil, he was not the same person. Quickly, “All hell broke loose!” Between April 29, 1969 and June 2, 1970, Morrow would be

punished six times for “unauthorized absences.” These U.A.’s were from a few hours in length to 17 days.

Morrow would be “busted” in rank from Lance Corporal to Private First Class and then down to Private, the lowest rank. He could not take orders anymore. He was repeatedly punished for other minor offenses.

What had happened to this man? His record in Vietnam speaks for itself! Yet, when he returned to safety in the United States, he obviously could not adjust! Without a doubt, Morrow’s change from the world of war to the world of peace had a profound effect on him.

After his last “U.A.,” Morrow was in the base brig awaiting court martial. He acknowledged his rights and requested discharge “for the good of the service.” His wish was granted and he received an “undesirable discharge” on July 10, 1970. (In August 1970, before a Navy Department “review board,” this would be changed.)

From official records: “In view of the applicant’s record of service, most notable the applicant’s combat record and a personal decoration for heroism, the (review) board concludes the more equitable discharge is a “General/Good of the Service Discharge.”

Re-read the last paragraph. It is a powerful group of words (most notably the applicant’s combat record!) The men on this review board included several Navy Captains and several Marine Corps Colonels! These career men had in effect given Morrow a tremendously high compliment. The review board had, obviously, overlooked Morrow’s shortcomings because of his accomplishments!

Sadly, this was not always the case. Long before his discharge, Morrow was forced to “swallow a bitter pill.” Residents of his home town had planned a “coming home celebration” for the heroic Marine. However, someone found out that Morrow had been in trouble because of a “U.A.” The word about this spread, and his celebration was cancelled.



Morrow’s Purple Heart, presented in recognition of combat wounds received in Vietnam.



Morrow’s Navy and Marine Corps Medal

To this day, Morrow is terribly disappointed because of this. Should not Morrow have been honored for his accomplishments instead of again persecuted for his shortcomings? The author suggests that the people who cancelled his celebration should read the review board's assessment!

Today, Morrow makes no excuses whatsoever about the trouble he had in the Marine Corps. He simply states, "Yes, I did those things. I knew it was wrong."

Morrow is mellowing with age. He dearly loves his wife, children, and residence in the tiny town of Swanwick, Illinois. Working construction, he has had a rough financial road during the past several years because of the recession. He is still somewhat a maverick, but has not been in any serious trouble since his discharge. In fact, he is a quiet person today.

If the author didn't strongly believe that this article should have been written, I would have never spent one minute doing so. Hopefully, by telling his story via this article, Mr. Morrow will lose some of the anger stored inside of him. He met and defeated one of man's most trying tests, that being the test of war.

Morrow's medals and monthly pension checks bring back memories such as the sounds of gunfire, helicopter gunships passing swiftly overhead, mortars and grenades exploding, wounded men screaming in agony, etc. Locked in his mind are pictures of death and destruction beyond our belief. Yet, like thousands of other Vietnam veterans, he never received the honor and respect due to him!

Even though you were later a maverick, Mr. Morrow, you have the author's highest compliment. I am positive the majority of readers will reach the same conclusion. Because of this article, the story of you and your two most important medals will now be known. You now have the recognition that you deserved many years ago.

Unfortunately, and undeniably, the medals of literally thousands of other heroic military men (and untold stories behind them) will be forgotten as the years pass by. Some of these medals will eventually end up in dealers' cases, waiting to be sold for a few dollars. This fact, friends, is a tragedy!



**A recent photo of Morrow with his wife, Charlotte, and their three children, Mary, Shiela and Bernadine**

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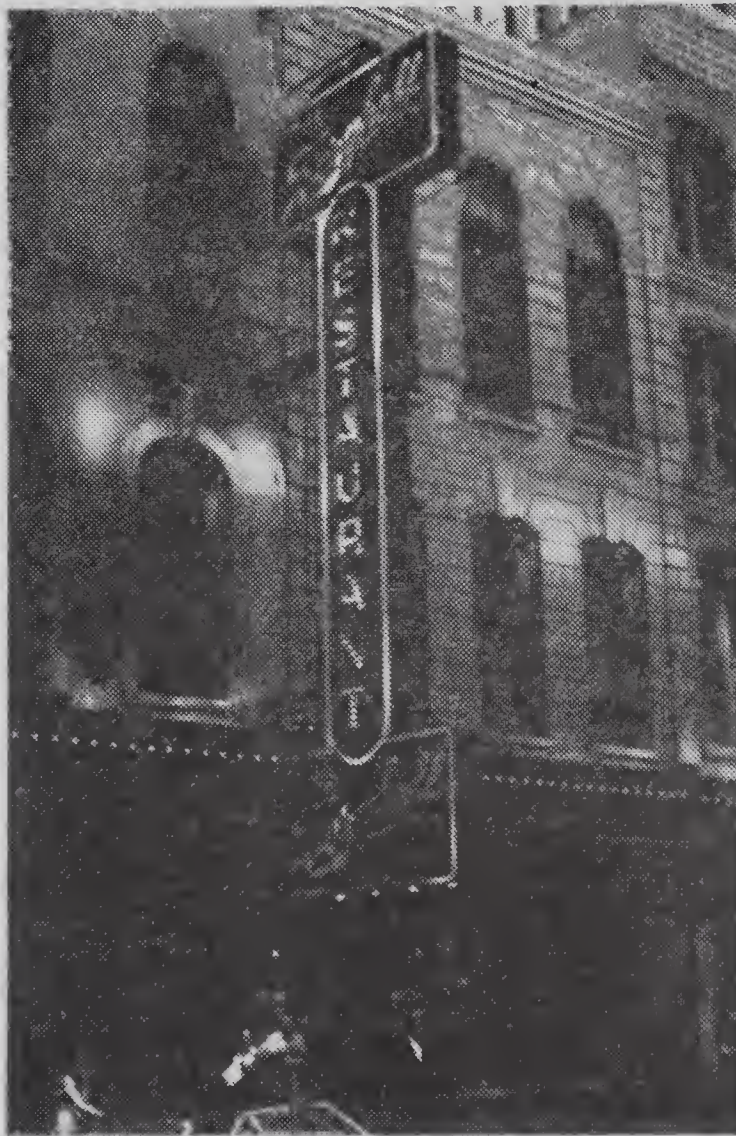
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# THE BERGHOFF CHIPS

By Mark Wieclaw

Imagine a restaurant that is in a convenient location, offers a pleasant atmosphere, and serves excellent food. Now, you may say that this description can fit many places. While this is certainly true how many of those restaurants can you go to where the waiter will **pay** for your meal?

By now you have probably surmised by the title of this article and the photo below that the name of the restaurant is The Berghoff. It is located at 17 W. Adams in downtown Chicago. Now before you get into your car and head out looking for a free meal, let me forewarn you of a couple of items. First, please don't try to locate Berghoff chips on the menu. They are not an appetizer, side dish, or dessert. In fact they're not even edible. Secondly, although the waiters do indeed pay for your meal you must reimburse them when you are ready to leave. You see, the Berghoff chips are a set of tokens that each waiter carries so they can prepay each meal they serve. The chip system is an old Teutonic-European system that has worked well since 1915. It may even be the only chip system still used in our country.



**The Berghoff downtown Chicago**

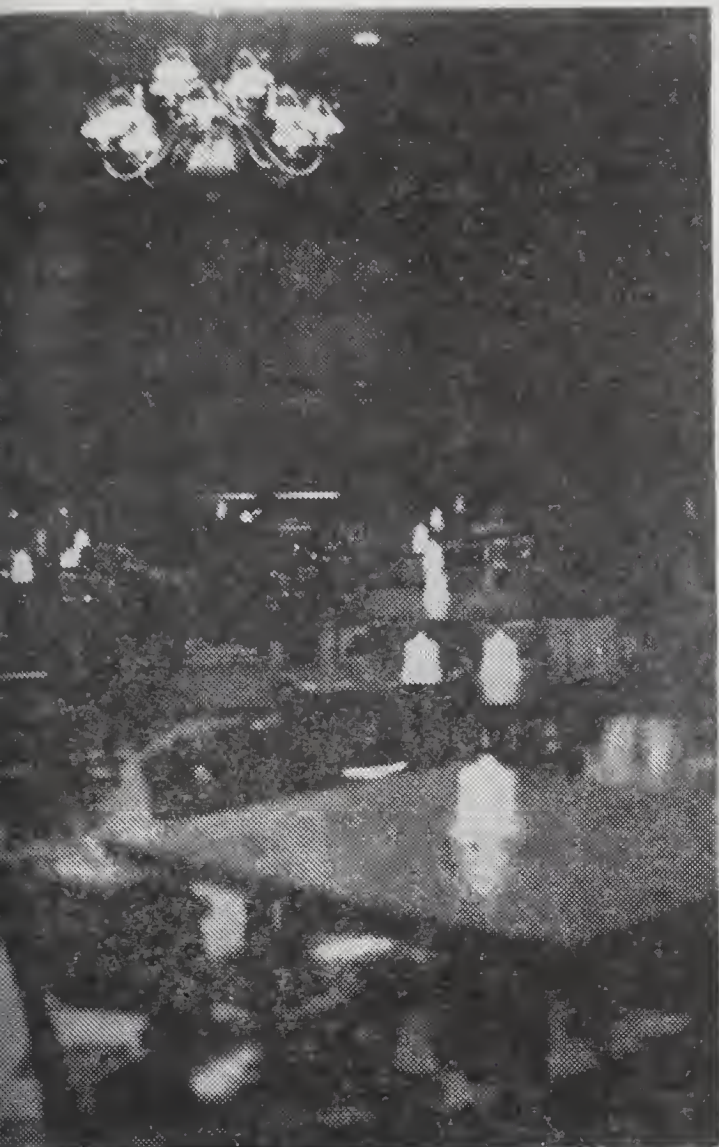
Before I explain how the chips work, let me give you a brief history of The Berghoff. In 1887, Herman Berghoff opened a brewery in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and featured a Berghoff All-Malt Dortmunder Beer that soon became very popular in the area. During the World's Columbian Exposition of 1892-93, Mr. Berghoff brought his special brew to Chicago, and it was quite a success. Herman then decided that Chicago would be a great market for his beer, but realized that in order for him to sell it on a permanent basis, he would have to open a cafe and serve food as well as beer. In 1898, he opened his first cafe located on the corner of State and Adams Streets. The cafe offered free sandwiches with a 5¢ beer and again proved to be quite successful.

In 1915, The Berghoff Cafe relocated one door west to its present location. During prohibition the Berghoff's food menu developed rather extensively, since liquor sales noticed quite a decline! Then, in the late 1960's, the National Organization for Women paid them a visit and found a rather low percentage (0%) of women in their "Men's Bar." After being enlightened by them, they welcomed women with open arms into the "Men's Bar." The name was changed to the "Public Bar" and now on a Friday night as much as 50% of the customers are women. This bar is now the last stand-up bar in Chiago and has no public entrance to the interior of the restaurant.

The Berghoff still maintains solid oak paneling, tables, and chairs. It also employs more than 200 people with the waiters still wearing white aprons, black jackets, and using chips in buying the food to serve their customers, just like they did in 1915.

Now, for an explanatgion of the chips (tokens). Each morning before The Berghoff opens, the waiters go to the head cashier to receive an advance of \$100 worth of chips. Next to the kitchen and bars are food and beverage cashiers who ring up the waiter's order. The waiter then pays for the food and beverage immediately, before serving the customer. He pays in chips rather than currency. Since he only has one free hand, the chips are of various shapes and sizes so that the waiter can distinguish them without looking. When the customer is finished eating, they pay the waiter at the table which seems to be more efficient since the restaurant seats over 700 people. The waiter also carries U.S. currency so that he can make change for the customer and purchase more chips when needed. At the end of the shift, all left over chips are turned in. All chips must be accounted for each day, and the dining areas on the main level have different shaped chips than the lower level to make it easier for accounting purposes.

The chips are of six denominations ranging from 5¢ to \$10. They are made by Meyer and Wenthe of Harwood Heights, Illinois. Approximately \$15,000 worth of chips are on hand although only \$8,500 are in circulation at one time. The chips wear well and are replaced usually due to loss rather than wear. Because of inflation, a \$5 chip was added in 1970 and a \$10 chip added in 1983. It is hoped a \$20 chip will not be needed for some time.



**Main Dining Room**



**Public Bar**

The obverse of the 5¢ chip has only a large numeral 5, while the reverse carries “Berghoff.” The 10¢ and 25¢ chips each have the numerals cut out and carry common obverses of “waiters check - B” and reverses of “Berghoff Annex, 15-35 W. Adams St.” The \$1.00, \$5.00, and \$10.00 each carry the denomination on both sides with “Berghoff” on the \$1.00 and \$5.00. The \$10.00 has “annex.” Some specifics of the chips are:

Denomination	Weight/gms	Size/mm	Shape	Color
5¢	1.3	25.0	Round	Silver
10¢	1.4	26.5	Octagon	Silver
25¢	1.4	28.5	Round with scalloped edge	Silver
\$ 1.00	8.2	36.0	Hexagon	Yellow
\$ 5.00	3.8	38.0	Round	Red
\$10.00	2.9	38.0	Round with scalloped edge	Silver

The composition of the \$1.00 chip is brass while the other chips are aluminum.

Just one more note of interest. The prices of the food at The Berghoff are unusually reasonable for the location, and the menu offers great variety. Also, a special thanks to Herman J. Berghoff for all the help he provided.



Photos of Chips — Main Level Chips

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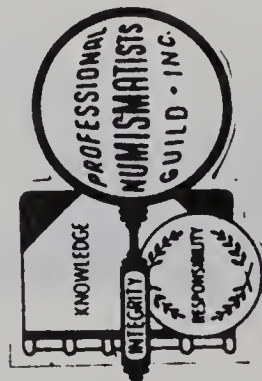


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